

a Scud missile or an intercontinental missile. Senator COCHRAN is right. The Senate had a very important vote yesterday, and by only one vote—by only one vote in the Senate, we were not able to move and clearly say that this country's first priority is going to be a defensive system for the ballistic missiles that we know 30 countries are now in the process of perfecting.

So I commend him for the statement he just made, for the efforts he has been making over the last year, and for the future efforts that we are all going to make to continue to press this very important issue. As we are debating the defense authorization bill for our country, I can think of no higher priority than to make sure that the shores of our country are protected against an incoming ballistic missile, whether it be from a rogue nation or terrorist act. That our people would know that we would be protected is the very highest priority. We are debating right now how to fund and make sure that our troops have everything they need to do the job to protect us. They should have that same protection anywhere that they would be representing the United States of America. In any theater anywhere in the world, we should be able to have a defense against an incoming ballistic missile.

So I commend the Senator from Mississippi, and I want to say we will not rest until we have won this issue, that we would be able to deploy right now our first priority, a defensive system for incoming ballistic missiles.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Mississippi.

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, I wish to thank the distinguished Senator from Texas for her kind and generous remarks. I agree with her that we need to do everything we can to study the test results, translate that into solving the problems we have in these systems for theater weapons that we have to protect our troops that are already being programmed—there are already deployment decisions that have been made, even though we haven't completed the development and the testing phase.

I hope we can see some successful tests soon and we urge the contractors and the Department to work as hard as they can to see that is done.

AMENDMENT NO. 2410

(Purpose: To provide eligibility for hardship duty pay on the basis of the nature of the duty performed instead of the location of the duty, and to repeal an exception)

Mr. KEMPTHORNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that it be in order for the Senate to consider amendment No. 2410; that the amendment be agreed to; and that the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment (No. 2410) was agreed to, as follows:

At the end of subtitle B of title VI, add the following:

SEC. 620. HARDSHIP DUTY PAY.

(a) DUTY FOR WHICH PAY AUTHORIZED.—Subsection (a) of section 305 of title 37,

United States Code, is amended by striking out "on duty at a location" and all that follows and inserting in lieu thereof "performing duty in the United States or outside the United States that is designated by the Secretary of Defense as hardship duty."

(b) REPEAL OF EXCEPTION FOR MEMBERS RECEIVING CAREER SEA PAY.—Subsection (c) of such section is repealed.

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—(1) Subsections (b) and (d) of such section are amended by striking out "hardship duty location pay" and inserting in lieu thereof "hardship duty pay".

(2) Subsection (d) of such section is redesignated as subsection (c).

(3) The heading for such section is amended by striking out "location".

(4) Section 907(d) of title 37, United States Code, is amended by striking out "duty at a hardship duty location" and inserting in lieu thereof "hardship duty".

(d) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The item relating to section 305 in the table of sections at the beginning of chapter 5 of such title is amended to read as follows:

"305. Special pay: hardship duty pay."

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, this amendment will give the Secretary of Defense authority to compensate our men and women in uniform that are serving in remote areas, in very difficult situations. Specifically, this amendment amends hardship duty location pay and allows the Secretary of Defense to designate certain "duties" as a hardship rather than limiting the pay to hardship duty "locations" only. This will allow for designation of certain missions like Joint Task Force Full Accounting (JTF-FA), the POW/MIA search teams, and the Central Identification Lab (CILHI) to be designated for receipt of the hardship duty pay. These teams are exposed to the most arduous conditions while deployed to remote, isolated areas of Laos, Cambodia, Vietnam, North Korea and China to conduct excavations of crash sites and identification of remains of U.S. servicemembers.

This amendment also allows the Secretary to recognize members serving in high operation tempo missions and eliminates the restriction on members receiving sea pay and hardship duty pay simultaneously. This would allow naval members who are serving in high operations tempo units to receive the added benefit. The hardship duty pay limit of \$300 per month would not be changed.

I commend my friends of the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) for bringing this to my attention. Their concern for the state of the military and those that serve is unsurpassed. During a recent trip to Southeast Asia, the VFW learned that personnel deployed under the command of JTF-FA are not authorized and do not receive imminent danger pay when deployed on Joint Field Activity operations in Laos and Vietnam. They reported their concerns to me because many of the crash sites were in extremely difficult terrain, littered by unexploded munitions.

At one Joint Field Activity excavation site that they visited in western Laos, the area in which the team was conducting excavations was littered

with unexploded BLU-26 cluster bomb units. Another crash site excavation was located next to sidewinder missiles. In addition, the teams are exposed to resistant strains of malaria, dengue fever, and other diseases while they are deployed in these isolated and remote areas. Furthermore, most of these sites are far removed from any modern medical facility.

Mr. President, I feel it not only the right thing to do, but that it will help the services to adequately compensate our men and women in uniform so as to entice these young Americans to stay in the service and to consider a career in the military. For the difficult and dangerous duties that they do, they deserve no less.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. SPECTER. I ask unanimous consent that I may speak for up to 10 minutes as in morning business.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator is informed there is an order to recognize the Senator from California. Is there objection to the request?

Mr. THURMOND. No objection.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

RELIGIOUS PERSECUTION THROUGHOUT THE WORLD

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I have sought recognition to compliment the House of Representatives on passage of legislation this afternoon to take a stand against religious persecution worldwide.

And, I compliment Congressman FRANK WOLF of Virginia for his leadership on this very important legislation.

Legislation is pending in the U.S. Senate identical with or very similar to the legislation passed in the House—I am not sure what amendments may have been crafted on the House floor this afternoon and what last-minute changes may have been made—but similar legislation has been introduced by this Senator in the U.S. Senate. And the purpose of this legislation is for the United States to take a stand against religious persecution worldwide.

We have a very unfortunate situation today where Catholic priests are being incarcerated in China, Buddhists are being persecuted in Tibet, and Evangelical Christians are being imprisoned in Saudi Arabia and in Egypt. The essence of freedom of religion is a very fundamental value in the United States and a very fundamental moral value. And, the legislation which passed the House today and which is pending in the Senate will enable the U.S. Government to take a stand against this religious persecution worldwide.

Freedom of religion is the first part of the first amendment. The United States was founded for religious freedom. The Pilgrims came here in 1607 for that purpose, as did my father Harry Specter, who literally walked across Europe with barely a ruble in his pocket in 1911 seeking a new life for himself and a family which he hoped to have, and religious freedom, because the Cossacks rode up and down the streets of Batchkurina, a small village in Ukraine, in Russia, where my father's brother, Mordechai Spectorski, had fought with the Cossacks, and they were looking for Mordechai Spectorski, who had fled the city. And, the Cossacks continued to look for members of the Specter family. My father immigrated to the United States, as did my mother Lillie Shanin, leaving a small town on the Russian-Polish border at the age of 5, coming to the United States in 1905.

The legislation which has passed the House of Representatives has some sanctions in it. It provides that there be no weapons of torture sold, and provides limitations as to what U.S. taxpayer money can be given for, other than humanitarian purposes. And, it seems to me that if the legislation is to have any effect, there have to be sanctions, there have to be weapons in the bill—teeth—in order to promote compliance.

I visited this past January in Saudi Arabia and talked to Saudi officials about concerns which I have and which others have had where Christians cannot display a Christmas tree in a window if it is visible from the outside, where Jewish soldiers are reluctant to wear their dog tags identifying themselves as being Jewish, a situation which is intolerable, where we have some 5,000 young men and women who are in Saudi Arabia to protect the Saudis.

The situation in Egypt is very serious where there are Evangelical Christians who are being persecuted, where they land in jail if there is a conversion from Islam to Christianity. I was unable to visit the Sudan because of difficulties there, but visiting in nearby Eritrea, I heard stories about the persecution of Christians in Sudan.

It is my hope that this legislation will be considered by the Senate in short order so that a firm stand will be taken to deal with the very serious issue of religious persecution worldwide.

Again, I compliment the House and chief sponsor, FRANK WOLF, and look forward to enactment of this legislation in the Senate. The bill passed by a vote of 375-41, which is well beyond the number necessary to be veto proof. The administration has been opposed to having sanctions in legislation, sanctions such as some of the ones proposed in the bill which I have offered and is pending in the U.S. Senate.

I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. THURMOND. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Mr. THURMOND. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that James Bynum, a Capitol Hill fellow, and Kurt Volker, a State Department fellow serving on Senator McCain's staff, be granted privileges of the floor during the debate and any votes concerning S. 2057, the fiscal year 1999 National Defense Authorization bill, as well as any related amendments.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. THURMOND. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, what is the current order?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The current order is the Brownback amendment, No. 2407, to the Feinstein amendment, No. 2405.

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that be set aside and that I be allowed to send an amendment to the desk.

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I object. The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I note the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. COATS). Without objection, it is so ordered.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST— S. 1415

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to Calendar No. 370, which is S. 1415, the tobacco bill, just reported from the Finance Committee.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. ASHCROFT. I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. LOTT. I now move that the Senate stand in adjournment for 1 minute.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to, and at 5:07 p.m., on Thursday, May 14, 1998, the Senate adjourned until 5:08 p.m. the same day.

AFTER ADJOURNMENT

The Senate met at 5:08 p.m., pursuant to adjournment, and was called to order by the Hon. DAN COATS, a Senator from the State of Indiana.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader is recognized.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. LOTT. I now ask that the routine requests through the morning hour be granted.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection? Without objection, it is so ordered.

UNIVERSAL TOBACCO SETTLEMENT ACT—MOTION TO PROCEED

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I now move to proceed to Calendar No. 370, S. 1415, and send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the motion.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the motion to proceed to calendar No. 370, S. 1415, regarding tobacco reform:

Trent Lott, John McCain, Ben Nighthorse Campbell, James Inhofe, Christopher Bond, Gordon Smith, Robert Bennett, Harry Reid, Ted Stevens, Richard Shelby, Mike DeWine, Susan Collins, Slade Gorton, Jay Rockefeller, John Kerry, Christopher Dodd.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I want to announce, for the information of all Senators, that the vote will occur on this cloture motion Monday, May 18, at a time to be determined by the majority leader after consultation with the Democratic leader, and the mandatory quorum under rule XXII be waived.

It is anticipated this vote will occur at 5:30 Monday afternoon. We have, in the past, over the past month, tried to make Senators aware of Mondays and Fridays, that we would not be having votes. This Friday we will not be having any votes. We notified the Members of that, I think at least 3 weeks ago. But we have been saying all along on Monday, the 18th, they should expect a vote. But we will try to have it late in the afternoon, so we could conduct some business during the morning and afternoon, so Senators will have time to get back here from their respective States. We do expect that vote probably around 5:30, but we want to check with all the Senators to see if that is the best possible time. We may need to move it a little bit one way or the other.